

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 IO-03 PM-03 L-01

SP-02 PRS-01 INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 SAJ-01 EURE-00

SSO-00 RSC-01 INRE-00 /045 W
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O P 221900Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0582

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORI

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

S E C R E T NICOSIA 4175

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CY

SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH DENKTASH

REF: A) NICOSIA 4082; B) NICOSIA 4105

1. SUMMARY: DENKTASH DESCRIBES PROBLEMS CREATED BY LIMASSOL MURDERS OF TURKISH WOMEN AND CHILDREN (RETELS). DISCUSSES POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF GREEK CYPRIOT EFFORTS TO PREVENT NORTHWARD MIGRATION OF TURKS, INCLUDING MILITARY ENCIRCLEMENT OF NICOSIA AND OCCUPATION OF LARNACA. CONTINUES TO BROOD ON RETURN OF MAKARIOS AS A MAJOR OBSTACLE IN SOLVING THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. END SUMMARY.

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH ME NOVEMBER 22 DENKTASH WEARILY SPOKE OF THE PROBLEMS WHICH HAD BEEN CREATED FOR HIM BY MURDER OF LIMASSOL WOMEN AND CHILDREN SEEKING TO MIGRATE TO TURKISH ZONE. THIS MATTER HAD OCCUPIED HIS FULL TIME FOR FIVE DAYS. TEMPER IN TURKISH COMMUNITY RUNNING VERY HIGH. IN HIS JUDGMENT, THIS
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WAS A POLITICAL CRIME CARRIED OUT BY GREEK CYPRIOT FANATICS

INTENT ON TERRORIZING TURKISH CYPRIOTS TO PREVENT INEVITABLE NORTHWARD MIGRATION. HE FELT THAT CLERIDES AGREED WITH HIM. HAD CLERIDESODOT ACTED EFFECTIVELY AND INSTANTLY TO BRING CRIMINALS TO JUSTICE, SILENCE MIGHT HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTROL. TURKISH LEADERSHIP BELIEVES OTHER SIMILAR CASES MAY HAVE TAKEN PLACE AND IS INVESTIGATING WHY CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS KNOWN TO HAVE LEFT LIMASSOL HAVE FAILED TO ARRIVE IN NORTH.

3. DENKTASH SPOKE AT LENGTH OF DANGER INHERENT IN GREEKS TRYING TO PREVENT AN INEVITABLE AND NATURAL NORTHWARD MOVEMENT OF THE 25,000 TURKS WHO REMAINED IN SOUTH. (HE INCLUDED SBA TURKS IN THIS FIGURE). AS CLERIDES HAD SEEN FOR HIMSELF DURING THEIR NOVEMBER 20 JOINT VISIT TO POLIS, TURKS WERE DESPERATE TO GET OUT OF GREEK-CONTROLLED AREAS WHERE THEY FELT INCREASINGLY ISOLATED AND UNSAFE. IF MAKARIOS CAME BACK AND PROCLAIMED, AS HE MIGHT VERY WELL, A MAXIMUM GREEK CYPRIOT EFFORT TO PREVENT THIS MIGRATION, THERE WOULD BE TROUBLE. THE TURKISH OPTION IN SUCH EVENT WAS EASY. TURKISH FORCES WOULD SIMPLY ENCIRCLE NICOSIA, CAUSING THE FLIGHT OF 75,000 GREEK CYPRIOTS, AND OCCUPY LARNACA. THE GREEKS WOULD BE TOLD THAT THEIR PEOPLE WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED BACK INTO THESE CITIES UNTIL TURKS PERMITTED TO MIGRATE.

4. DENKTASH SAID IT LOOKED INCREASINGLY AS IF NOBODY COULD STOP MAKARIOS FROM RETURNING. THAT WOULD MEAN THE END OF PRODUCTIVE NEGOTIATION AND PROBABLY OF CLERIDES AS WELL. I REPLIED THAT IN MY VIEW IT TOO EARLY TO COME TO SUCH A PESSIMISTIC CONCLUSION. KARAMANLIS SEEMED TO BE WITH CLERIDES. CLERIDES WAS AFTER A DOCUMENTED UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN HIMSELF, MAKARIOS AND KARAMANLIS ON GREEK OBJECTIVES IN NEGOTIATION, WHO WOULD NEGOTIATE AND WHO WOULD SIGN. HE WAS TAKING THE INITIATIVE AND PLAYING WITH GREAT SKILL THE CARDS AT HAND. IT SEEMED TO ME HE MIGHT WELL GET WHAT HE WANTED. IF HE DID, THE NEGOTIATION COULD BEGIN IN EARNEST. KEY PROBLEM WAS TO MOVE MAKARIOS TO FEDERATION ON A GEOGRAPHIC BASIS. GREEKS WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO HAVE A TRY AT MULTI-CANTONAL OBJECTIVE BEFORE THEY COULD BE BROUGHT TO CONSIDER THE BIZONAL, BUT CLERIDES WAS REALISTIC ON THIS SCORE.

5. DENKTASH COUNTERED THAT THE PROBLEM WAS THAT RECENT
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HISTORY HAD SHOWN MAKARIOS' SIGNATURE TO BE WORTHLESS.

6. COMMENT: DENKTASH'S REMARKS ABOUT ENCIRCLEMENT OF NICOSIA AND OCCUPATION OF LARNACA AS A DEVICE TO COMPEL RELEASE OF TURKISH CYPRIOTS IN SOUTH SEEMS A CAREFULLY CALCULATED THREAT. HE IS SPREADING THIS TO OTHERS, E.G. ITALIAN AMBASSADOR. IF HE HAS USED IT WITH ANY BLOC DIPLOMATS, IT MAY BE THE BASIS FOR RECENT SOVIET-CZECH

REPORT, WHICH REACHED CLERIDES, ABOUT A TURKISH MILITARY
MOVE BEFORE THE END OF THE MONTH TO "RESCUE" SOUTHERN
TURKS. THIS THREAT, IF ACTED UPON, WOULD IN OUR OPINION
KNOCK GREECE, AND THEREFORE ANY CYPRUS NEGOTIATCXON,
RIGHT OUT OF THE BALLPARK.
CRAWFORD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE, DEATHS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974NICOSI04175
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740339-0621
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741120/aaaaaqpk.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: A) NICOSIA 4082; B) NICOSIA 4105
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <24 MAR 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATION WITH DENKTASH
TAGS: PFOR, CY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005